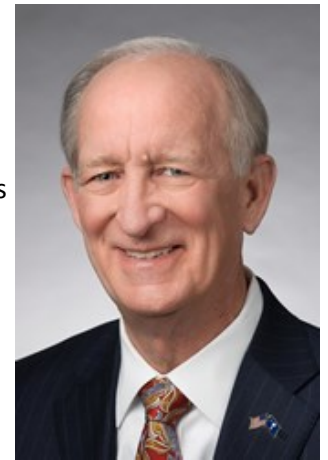


2016 Kicking Off Hurricane Preparedness Season Symposium

Today, Director Farmer provided the Keynote Address at the sixth annual “Kicking Off Hurricane Preparedness Season” symposium hosted by The Travelers Institute. The symposium was held at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina in Mark Clark Hall, Buyer Auditorium. The Institute for Business and Home Safety, the Independent Agents and Brokers of South Carolina and The Citadel participated in the symposium which focused on the various steps and best practices that governments, businesses and families should take to prepare for the hurricane season.



“As we approach the 2016 Hurricane Season, I encourage everyone living and working in coastal regions to take time to plan and prepare for this upcoming storm season. There are steps and precautions that individuals can take to protect their families, property and businesses before the storm arrives,” said Ray Farmer, Director of the South Carolina Department of Insurance. “This symposium provides a tremendous opportunity for the entire community to collaborate and ensure that our coastal regions are prepared for whatever nature brings our way.”

Today’s event also showcased the work of the non-profit disaster relief organization, All Hands Volunteers. Travelers Institute and Travelers Foundation presented this organization with the Excellence in Community Resilience Award and a \$100,000 grant for their commitment to serving communities around the world and helping them recover from storms and other devastating events.

The program included panel discussion focusing on hurricane preparedness and included the following speakers: Joan Woodward, President, Traveler Institute, Erik Dyson, Director and CEO of All Hands Volunteers, Julie Rochman, President and CEO, The Institute for Business and Home Safety Michael Ventrice, Operational Scientist, The Weather Company and

Colonel Benjamin Wham, Associate Vice President for Facilities, Engineering and Safety, The Citadel.

For more information about the importance of preparing in advance for hurricanes and storms visit the South Carolina Department of Insurance website, www.doi.sc.gov and click on the interview with Director Farmer and iHeart Media Radio Host, Kelly Nash.

